

These of course are of especial interest to the ornithologist although the whole volume will be interesting reading to all who love the great outdoors. The book is attractively printed and is illustrated by a number of half-tones of characteristic scenery from photographs by the author.— W. S.

Wood on Michigan Birds.¹— Continuing his investigations on the Charity Islands already noticed in these pages,² Mr. Wood was able during July, 1911, to add eight species to his former list and to secure breeding data on 37 species. Notes on 66 species are included in the present paper which are accompanied by 19 half-tones illustrating the physical features of the islands. In another short paper³ Mr. Wood presents notes on sixteen species of rare or unusual occurrence in Michigan.— W. S.

Howell on New Birds from Alabama.⁴— Even the eastern United States seems still able to produce novelties for those who care to make careful comparisons of material from different areas and are content to establish new forms on slight differences. Mr. Howell finds that the Crows of the southern states exclusive of Florida and possibly Georgia, are smaller than either the northern or the Florida race. This form which ranges north to the District of Colombia and southern Illinois he names *Corvus brachyrhynchos paulus*.

A number of Towhees from Alabama differ from the northern form in having the white markings less extensive, while they are distinctly larger than Florida birds. This form is separated as *Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster* although Mr. Howell is unable as yet to fix the limits of its distribution.— W. S.

Mearns on New African Birds.⁵— In two papers Dr. Mearns adds eleven more forms to the already long list of novelties discovered by him on his two trips to Africa. In the first there are described *Cisticola robusta abaya*, Lake Abaya, Abyssinia; *C. r. tana*, Tana River, British East Africa; *C. subruficapilla bodessa*, Bodessa, Abyssinia; and *C. s. fricki*, White Lake Abaya, Abyssinia, all obtained on the Childs Frick Expedition, and *C.*

¹ The Breeding Birds of the Charity Islands with Additional Notes on the Migrants. By N. A. Wood, Fourteenth Report of the Michigan Academy of Science, 1912. pp. 178-188.

² Auk, 1912, p. 118.

³ Notes on Michigan Birds. By N. A. Wood, Fourteenth Report of the Michigan Academy of Science, 1912, pp. 159-162.

⁴ Descriptions of two New Birds from Alabama. By Arthur H. Howell, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. XXVI, pp. 199-202, October 23, 1913.

⁵ Descriptions of Six New African Birds. By Edgar A. Mearns, Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 61, No. 11, pp. 1-5, August 30, 1913.

Descriptions of Five New African Weaver-Birds of the Genera *Othyphantes*, *Hypargos*, *Aidemosyne*, and *Lagonosticta*. By Edgar A. Mearns. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 61, No. 14, pp. 1-5. September 20, 1913.

natalensis nilotica, Lado Enclave, and *Pyromelana flammiceps changamwenensis*, Changamwe, coast of British East Africa, secured by the Smithsonian African Expedition under Col. Theodore Roosevelt. The second paper deals wholly with Weaver Birds, four were obtained on the Childs Frick Expedition, the last one on the Smithsonian Expedition. The new forms with type localities are as follows: *Othyphantes fricki*, Sidamo, southern Abyssinia; *Hypargos niveoguttatus macrospilotus*, Meru Forest, British East Africa; *Aidemosyne cantans meridionalis*, Indunumara Mts., B. E. A., *Lagonosticta rubricata fricki*, Gardulla, Abyssinia; and *Aidemosyne inornata*, El Dueim, White Nile, Sudan.— W. S.

Shufeldt on Fossil Feathers and Fossil Birds.¹— In this paper Dr. Shufeldt discusses the various specimens of fossil feather impressions that have been described, illustrating most of them, and also presents some photographs of other specimens found in the Florissant formation in Colorado by Prof. T. D. A. Cockerell and others.

Two new species are based on bird remains in the Peabody Museum, Yale University. *Hebe schucherti* from the Green River Eocene of Wyoming, is a possible ally of the South American *Pteroptochidae*, although the author is not prepared to say positively what its affinities may be other than that it is passerine. *Yalavis tenuipes* is another passerine species about the size of a warbler, locality unknown.— W. S.

Gain, on Penguins of the Antarctic Regions.²— This interesting account with numerous excellent illustrations is reprinted from *Lâ Nature*. Dr. Gain was naturalist of the Charcot Expedition of 1909, which wintered at Petermann's Island and had ample opportunity for studying these interesting birds. His report upon them forms a convenient work of reference on the habits of a group with which the recent antarctic expeditions have made us more familiar than ever before, birds whose remarkable structure and peculiar actions arouse our keenest interest.— W. S.

Mathews' 'A List of the Birds of Australia.'³— Some months ago, much to our regret, we felt it necessary to comment adversely upon the

¹ Fossil Feathers and some heretofore undescribed Fossil Birds. *Journal of Geology*, XXI, No. 7, Oct.-Nov. 1913, pp. 628-652.

² The Penguins of the Antarctic Regions. By L. Gain. Smithsonian Report for 1912, pp. 475-482, plates 1-9. 1913.

³ A List of the Birds of Australia | By | Gregory M. Mathews, F. R. S. E. | Fellow of the Linnean and Zoological Societies of London | Member of the British Ornithologists' Union | Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union | Member of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union | Author of | "The Birds of Australia" | Containing the Names and Synonyms Connected | with each *Genus*, *Species* and *Subspecies* of | Birds found in Australia, at present known to | the author. | [vignette]. Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. | 1913. roy 8vo. pp. i-xxiv + 1-332 + index and map of Australia showing type localities. [Edition limited to 270 copies.]